



California Department of Veterans Affairs



THE GOVERNOR'S
INTERAGENCY COUNCIL
ON VETERANS ★ ★ ★

**Meeting Minutes
The Governor's Interagency Council on Veterans
Health Care Working Group Meeting
Tuesday, April 24, 2012**

The Governor's Interagency Council on Veterans, Health Care Working Group held a meeting on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at the California Department of Veterans Affairs, Sacramento, California. The following Draft Minutes are not a written transcript, but a brief synopsis of the meeting. Member discussion and public comments have been paraphrased.

1. Call to Order/ Roll call

DISCUSSION: The Governor's Interagency Council on Veterans, Health Care Working Group held a meeting on Tuesday, April 24, 2012, at the California Department of Veterans Affairs, Sacramento, California. Eddie Ramirez, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

ACTION: Mr. Ramirez conducted roll call of the Health Care Working Group members present.

ATTENDANCE:

Eduardo Ramirez
Amy Fairweather
Cheryl Robbie
Gary Ross
Patricia Ryan
Duane Shaul
Jo Sornorborger
Wanda Torres
Eric Worthen
Elizabeth Wied
Bill York

PERSON(S) ACCOUNTABLE: NA

2. Overview of Informational Packet

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramirez gave opening comments and welcomed the participants of the meeting. Mr. Ramirez explained the process for future meetings. Mr. Ramirez gave an overview of the Conference Summary and its overarching themes and main points.

ACTION: NA

PERSON(S) ACCOUNTABLE: NA

3. Discuss Priorities of Health Care Working Group

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramirez led discussions about our three major priorities. The first discussion was about how to solve the lack of information sharing in veterans' health care, and how the state legislature should hold informational hearing to highlight 2-1-1 San Diego, and how they manage HIPAA to legally share information regionally. The second priority Mr. Ramirez led discussion in was dealing with how to identify all the veterans in need of care by implementing **Public Assistance Reporting Information System** (PARIS) statewide and data matching Department Of Defense records with Franchise Tax Board records and creating an intake form for all entities serving veterans that captures specific information. Mr. Ramirez led discussion in creating a less complicated form to apply for veterans benefits. The working group wanted to wait for entire summary of February's meeting to lay out action plan.

ACTION: NA

PERSON(S) ACCOUNTABLE: NA

4. Discuss Action Plan of Health Care Working Group

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramirez led a discussion on implementing an action plan. Ms. Fairweather suggested we reword the priorities in order to make our goals easily understood by the masses. To address information sharing challenges in veteran health care services: invite experts to brief the committee on the existing data collection through the CDVA, DMV, PARIS, and other means; encourage the Legislature to hold an informational hearing to highlight the 2-1-1 San Diego program;

Review San Diego 2-1-1 system and referral systems; review HIPAA regulations to determine how to legally share veteran health care information and develop recommendations for identifying and referring military, veterans and their families for care.

Address the obstacles to federal care; including improving access to VBA claims assistance and discharge review services in order to secure health care and disability benefits eligibility for veterans. Encourage the VA to streamline federal benefit application processes.

Promote military, veteran and family screening in civilian primary care and community based behavioral health agencies, educate non-military/veteran providers on common physical and mental health issues among veterans and resources and treatment protocols.

ACTION: Invite experts to brief the committee on the needs of California's aging veteran population.

PERSON(S) ACCOUNTABLE: Jason Smith

5. Follow-up on Previous Tasks/Questions

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramirez requested members to bring up any comments or questions from previous meetings on items not on this agenda.

ACTION: NA

PERSON(S) ACCOUNTABLE: NA

6. Public Comments

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramirez asked for public comments and no comments were made.

ACTION: NA

PERSON(S) ACCOUNTABLE: NA

7. Future Meetings and Dates to Remember

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ramirez brought the ICV Meeting Calendar and brought everyone's attention to the May 14-25 time blocked off for the Health Care Working Groups next meeting. Then it was suggested that we pick a block of time for June's meeting and we blocked off from June 18-29.

ACTION: NA

PERSON(S) ACCOUNTABLE: NA

8. Adjournment

DISCUSSION: The Health Care Working Group members consent to adjourn the April 24, 2012, meeting at 11:09 AM.

ACTION: Mr. Ramirez moved and Ms. Wied seconded.

STATUS: Members approved the motion. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 11:09 AM.